REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing prior to an examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The foregoing amendment corrects a typographical error appearing in paragraph 2 of page 1 of the present specification.

An early examination and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Bv:

Jeffrey G/Killian

Registration No. 50,891

P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620

Date: December 3, 2003